

POM-230. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Nevada; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

JOINT RESOLUTION 25

"Whereas, Air and highway travel is becoming increasingly congested in the Western United States as populations continue to increase in those areas; and

"Whereas, Such congestion may result in an increase in the number of fatal automobile and airplane accidents and in the amount of harmful contaminants released in to the atmosphere; and

"Whereas, The technology to build super-speed trains which operate by magnetic levitation is available and if employed would help eliminate the congested conditions on the highways and in the air and therefore help reduce the rate of fatal accidents and the levels of air pollution; and

"Whereas, Super-speed trains which operate by magnetic levitation can travel in excess of 180 miles per hour and therefore for many trips would be of comparable efficiency to that of most commercial airlines; and

"Whereas, The estimated fare for passengers of such super-speed trains is only about two-thirds of the prevailing fare for passengers of commercial airlines; and

"Whereas, The cost of construction of such a super-speed train system is estimated to be lower per mile than building traditional highways or airports in urban areas; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of Nevada, jointly, That the President of the United States and Congress are hereby urged to support all federal and state efforts to build and operate super-speed trains which operate by magnetic levitation and to support financially, through grants or otherwise, the development of a national corridor for the travel of such super-speed trains; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States as the presiding officer of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and each member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage and approval."

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HATFIELD, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled "Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals from the Concurrent Resolution for Fiscal Year 1996" (Rept. No. 104-115).

By Mr. MACK, from the Committee on Appropriations, with amendments:

H.R. 1854. A bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-114).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. STEVENS:

S. 1046. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue certificates of docu-

mentation with appropriate endorsements for employment in the coastwise trade of the United States for 14 former U.S. Army hovercraft; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. STEVENS (for himself and Mr. HOLLINGS):

S. 1047. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue certificates of documentation and coastwise trade endorsements for the vessels ENCHANTED ISLES and ENCHANTED SEAS; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PRESSLER (for himself and Mr. BURNS):

S. 1048. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1996 to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for human space flight; science, aeronautics, and technology; mission support; and Inspector General; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HEFLIN:

S. 1049. A bill to amend the National Trails Systems Act to designate the route from Selma to Montgomery as a National Historic Trail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. STEVENS:

S. 1046. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue certificates of documentation with appropriate endorsements for employment in the coastwise trade of the United States for 14 former U.S. Army hovercraft; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. STEVENS (for himself and Mr. HOLLINGS):

S. 1047. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue certificates of documentation and coastwise trade endorsements for the vessels *Enchanted Isles* and *Enchanted Seas*; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

JONES ACT WAIVERS LEGISLATION

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, today I am introducing two bills to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue certificates of documentation for certain vessels.

HOVERCRAFT

The first bill would authorize the issuance of certificates of documentation with appropriate endorsements for employment in the coastwise trade of the United States for 14 hovercraft formerly owned by the U.S. Army.

These hovercraft were built for the U.S. Army by Bell Aerospace Co. in Buffalo, NY, between 1982 and 1986.

The vessels are 76 feet in length and capable of hauling 30 tons of cargo each.

After being declared surplus by the U.S. Army in 1994, the hovercraft were acquired by Champion Constructors, Inc., a subsidiary of Cook Inlet Region, Inc., of Anchorage, AK.

The hovercraft are intended to be used for transporting cargo and passengers between points in Alaska.

It is my understanding that most of the major components of the hover-

craft were constructed and assembled in the United States, but that because some components were constructed in Canada, the hovercraft have been determined by the Coast Guard to be ineligible to operate in the coastwise trade of the United States.

The first bill I am introducing today would allow these vessels to be operated in the U.S. coastwise trade.

I ask unanimous consent that this bill be printed in the RECORD.

VESSELS

Senator HOLLINGS joins me as a cosponsor of the second bill I am introducing today, which would authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue certificates of documentation with appropriate endorsements for employment in the coastwise trade of the United States for two cruise ships that were built in the United States but that are currently being operated under the Panamanian flag.

It is my understanding that the *Enchanted Isle* and *Enchanted Seas* were built in the 1950's in Mississippi, and that they can carry approximately 1,000 passengers each.

The vessels left the United States coastwise trade and began flying the Panamanian flag in 1972.

A U.S. flag company, International Marine Carriers, is in the process of acquiring the vessels, and would like to employ them in trade in the Gulf of Mexico and along the east coast.

The vessels will provide jobs for U.S. seamen, and it is my understanding that U.S. maritime unions support waiving them into the U.S. trade. The Coast Guard authorization bill passed in the House earlier this year included waivers for the two ships.

I ask unanimous consent that this bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bills were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1046

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That notwithstanding section 12106, 12107, and 12108 of title 46, United States Code, and section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1920 (46 App. U.S.C. 883), as applicable on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation may issue certificates of documentation with appropriate endorsements for employment in the coastwise trade of the United States for the fourteen former U.S. Army hovercraft with serial numbers LACV-30-04, LACV-30-05, LACV-30-07, LACV-30-09, LACV-30-10, LACV-30-13, LACV-30-14, LACV-30-15, LACV-30-16, LACV-30-22, LACV-30-23, LACV-30-24, LACV-30-25, and LACV-30-26.

S. 1047

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That notwithstanding section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1920 (46 U.S.C. App. 883), the Act of June 19, 1886 (46 U.S.C. App. 289), section 12106 of title 46, United States Code, section 506 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46 U.S.C. App. 1156), and any agreement with the United States Government, the Secretary of Transportation may issue certificates of documentation with a coastwise endorsement for the